guidelines are in line with the National Blood Policy adopted by the Government of India in April, 2002.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Every blood bank operating in the country has to be fully equipped. This is a requirement to be fulfilled before obtaining a license from the State Drug Authority. As per the specifications provided for obtaining a license, necessary facilities in terms of physical infrastructure, technical equipments and specific laboratory facilities for conducting tests for various Transfusion Transmissible Diseases (TTDs) including HIV have to be in place. Such provisions cover all blood banks including Government, private, corporate and society blood banks in the country.

(d) There are already existing provisions under the Drugs & Cosmetics Rules 1945 (amended in 2001), whereby any blood bank without a valid license/renewed license cannot operate in the country.

Every blood bank has to equip technically, to be eligible for obtaining a licence. The licence is issued/renewed only when the blood bank complies with requirements laid down under the rules after verification by the competent inspecting authority.

(e) Does not arise.

Shortage of Doctors and Staff in CGHS Dispensaries

1373. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI:
SHRI AMAR SINGH:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there is an acute shortage of Doctors and other supporting staff in various CGHS dispensaries in the Capital.

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether it is also a fact that emergency services in certain dispensaries have been discontinued and if so, the details thereof and reasons therefor; and

(d) by when the same are likely to be started again?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) There is no acute shortage of doctors in the dispensaries under CGHS Delhi. However, from some of the dispensaries under CGHS Delhi, doctors were transferred to the Government of NCT of Delhi (GNCTD)/other places against whom replacements have not joined, which is a temporary phenomenon.

There is some shortage of supporting staff in the dispensaries under CGHS Delhi in various categories of posts due to non-filling up of vacancies consequent upon the ban imposed by the Government on recruitment.

(c) Yes, Sir, the emergency services in certain dispensaries have been discontinued due to low attendance of patients at the dispensaries during the emergency shift services. As a result, the CGHS has been able to optimally use the services of the available doctors/staff for the morning shift in various dispensaries so as to provide better services to the CGHS beneficiaries and reducing the waiting time for consultation at the dispensaries.

(d) In view of (c) above, the question does not arise.

New Gene for AIDS resistance

1374. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that according to a study, a gene may help people resist AIDS;

(b) whether his Ministry has come across such a study; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Yes, sir, one such study has been carried out in All India Institute of Medical Sciences, (AIIMS) New Delhi. A set of immunomodulatory genes have been identified that may have protective effect in patients infected with